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**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**  
**DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE**  
465 S. KING STREET, #103  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

e-mail: Hawaii.PUC@hawaii.gov

August 11, 2008

Catherine P. Awakuni  
Executive Director  
Department of Commerce and  
Consumer Affairs  
Division of Consumer Advocacy  
P.O. Box 541  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809

P.A. Nicholas  
Molokai Public Utilities, Inc.  
Wai'ola O Moloka'i, Inc.  
MOSCO, Inc.  
Molokai Properties Limited, dba  
Molokai Ranch  
745 Fort Street Mall, Suite 600  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Brian T. Moto, Corporation Counsel  
Jane E. Lovell, Deputy Corporation Counsel  
Department of the Corporation Counsel  
County of Maui  
200 South High Street  
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii 96793

Re: Docket No. 2008-0115 – In Re. Molokai Public Utilities, Inc., Wai'ola O Moloka'i, Inc., and MOSCO, Inc. for Temporary Rate Relief

Dear Parties:

For your information and review, enclosed please find copies of public comments and correspondence received by the commission in the above-referenced docket.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 586-2019.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kaiulani Kidani Shinsato".

Kaiulani Kidani Shinsato  
Commission Counsel

KKS:ps

Enclosures

2008-0115

Prisca D Medeiros  
P.O. Box 196  
Maunaloa Molokai Hi 96770

June 29, 2008

### MY STRONG VOICE

FILED  
2008 AUG - 1 A 10:55  
PUBLIC UTILITIES  
COMMISSION

To all personals connected with the water issue of Maunaloa Molokai, who are disputing over this grave matter now that the Ranch has no desire to be connected with Molokai in anyway. It is my deep regret that this tragedy has come about. The intentions of disrupting our water service for not only the people of Maunaloa, but for Molokaians as a whole, is very disturbing and inconceivable and ridiculous to comprehend..

Let me make this clear to those who think that they can continue to raise revenues in this manner.

One day, some enterprising minded person decided to stake a claim on water that runs free...a natural land resource provided for Life's sustenance like the air we breath...all free...because these were meant for human consumption that humanity may survive, along with our vast wet divide with abundance of food supply; our fish in the sea. These too are free. Without air we suffocate, without water we dehydrate, and without food life cannot exist. Strange, indeed the minds and ways of humans in focusing their primary concern on how to be productive for capital gain.,

You may not agree with me...but I see this as factual. The air, water, fish in sea...are all free. However the infrastructures that have made our lives convenient by bringing water into our kitchen by a twist of the wrist, this process is not free. Most of these were done as a One Time Thing...Of course there is necessary maintenance, like checking for water levels, monitoring the check of bacterial count, providing quality safe drinking water etc. Speaking in comparison how many times these periodic check are done and how many people is needed to do this job? to....the thousands of customers that must pay their water bill.? How can the water department say that they are operating in the red...Hog wash! They are trying by all means to make more money in whatever way they think is possible as I see this. and to the extent, literally making threats "You must do this or else!" So now the fight begins who will take over the water issue so Molokaians will not know thirst.

For a none believer, it is possible for one to feel comfortable if one engages in this type of scenario of injustice. By golly! if you are a believer, I pray you have your heart and compassion in its right places. and exercise your good will to stop this fight over our life giving water that also purges one's spirit. I could hardly regard this as justifiable for that intended high increase of water rates for the already much burdened Maunaloans.

Greed is not the answer for human posterity, nor for creating peace and harmony in human lives,,nor can it be a vehicle to promote our general welfare and to insure domestic tranquility.

I sinerely hope we can solve this water issue very soon..Perhaps it will help if we look to our Makua our Akua to show us the right way to deal with our Human short comings

Sincerely and aloha nui

*Priscilla Medeiros*



George Peabody Molokai  
Advertiser-News  
<molokaiman1@worldlinkisp.  
com>

To Hawaii.puc@hawaii.gov, dlnr.cwrm@hawaii.gov

cc

bcc

08/03/2008 06:44 PM

Subject Molokai water vs development

**Molokai Taxpayers Should Not Be Liable for Water Supply Costs to Kaluakoi Hotel, Condo and Phony "Ag" Developments When MPL Utility Abandons Promises to Supply Water & Sewer**

Since the 1970's, Molokai residents, from Hawaiian Homesteaders to Farmers, Fishermen, laborers, unemployed, students and teachers have expressed concerns about real estate development in the arid west Molokai ahupuaa called Kaluakoi, and the lack of water to support human population was always the top concern. Government representatives who are supposed to insure a balance between development and the water resources needed to support the development -Linda Lingle, the State Land Use Commission, the Maui Planning Commission and County Council -approved hotels and condos, and phony agriculture subdivisions for wealthy "farmers" based on unverified and unenforceable promises by developers that water would be provided to all their approved developments.

Twenty five years later, the developments have surpassed the water resources available. It has also become very expensive for existing water resources to be collected and pumped to all those residential developments and swimming pools out in Kaluakoi. The house of cards built up over the two and a half decades by foreign owners of Molokai Ranch, now know as Molokai Properties, Ltd, is falling down onto the arid red dirt of this ancient ahupuaa. Victims of real estate developers here similar to swamp lands scams.

Westenders who still depend on the developers' incorporated Utility Companies for water and sewer services, are now faced with a serious problem: how to continue water supply services and sewer services after Molokai Properties, Ltd announced suddenly it was closing all Molokai Ranch operations, and that it could no longer afford to operate the water and sewer utilities. Linda Lingle who calls herself governor inspite of her conviction in USDC on several felony counts and is a major supporter of these developers, wants Maui County Taxpayers to pay the bills and operate the services to the victims of MPL's real estate development scam. The State Public Utility Commission initiated a water rate increase of about 120% to support MPL. But MPL demanded a 178% increase minimum, and threatens to stop all water supply services to westend residences, condos after August if not approved. The next scheduled PUC meeting is August 14. Public comments can be emailed to PUC:

Hawaii.puc@hawaii.gov, or phone 586-2020.

Fortunately, Maui County Mayor and counsel Jane Lovell have rejected Linda Lingle's demands that Maui County Taxpayers accept the utility operation from MPL. Lingle has no authority through her DOH to require that the Taxpayers of Molokai bail out a private water utility company, while its parent company Molokai Properties, Ltd, retains all its real estate assets.

It is clear that people who purchased land from MPL expected and contracted with MPL for water services. This problem they now face is their problem because they chose to deal with the Devil, in the face of facts that clearly showed it was a risky investment because of the lack of water resources. Now the Devil is wearing no clothes. Everybody knows the Devil is in the details.

There are solutions to Westenders' water problem, but they are expensive solutions: solarized de-salinization is one. But those rich Westender's want everyone else to subsidize them. Unfortunately, Mayor Tavares is also playing the political game of equivocation, saying the county is willing to provide assistance in the event MPL Utilities abandon their responsibilities to provide water to their westend clients. "We are not going to abandon the [westend] Molokai residents. So, lets be sure to remind her that she has a responsibility to all Molokai, Maui, and Lanai residents to avoid encumbrances and fiscal malfeasance just like the issue at hand.

Hawaii Legislature senator Kalani English has stated his belief that Lingle's order for County liability, and he condemned Lingle's attempt to Order such burden onto Taxpayers.

It is clear that We The People [Militia] must not let Tavares or Lingle et al burden us with debts and costs that belong to the Westenders and the Devil through their contracts and Corps. If we allow MPL's utilities to abdicate and transfer costs to us, other developments will continue where they do not have water and therefore do not belong for that reason alone.

NO MORE WATER = No more Development!

mahalos,

George Peabody editor for Molokai Advertiser-News since 1984  
HC01 Box 770  
Kaunakakai, HI 96748

<http://www.MolokaiAdvertiserNews.com>



"Mahiki Lankford "  
<Mahiki\_9@MSN.COM>  
07/27/2008 07:27 PM

To <hawaii.puc@hawaii.gov>  
cc  
bcc  
Subject Maunaloa resident

Aloha PUC,

I didn't have a chance to testify July 15 meeting everything happen so fast my opinion is very brief the Ranch has to pay for all that needs to be done for the water system, it's not that they don't have the money they have money to fix it sure the County has to step in but for now make the Ranch pay for saying that everything is okay when all along they knew the system wasn't working and made everything sound so good and all those people that spoke in there behalf must feel so embarrass and foolish and cause the community to go against brother and sister and family.

we are paying 18% on our electric bill now they want us to pay 200% on the water bill I refuse to pay ,if they had done this before this all happen and let us know about the water system that needed to be fix I can see the adjustment on our water bill plus with the gas situation \$5.00 our Maunaloa store we don't how that might be they have just pick-up and left like saying if you don't play with me am taking all my toys away

they have left Maunaloa like a ghost town.

My name is Mahiki Lankford resident of Maunaloa home owner.



"Ray Tensfeldt"  
<rayglen@aloha.net>  
07/29/2008 11:37 AM

To <Hawaii.PUC@hawaii.gov>  
cc  
bcc  
Subject Docket 2008-0115

Commissioners,

As an affected party to the MPL aka, Molokai Ranch, notice of pending discontinuation of water and sewer services to the central and west end Molokai residents and businesses, I feel that it is necessary to state my dissatisfaction with the current handling of this situation.

When I purchased a west end property I was informed that these were AG. lands. It was my understanding that this was also a State of Hawaii and County of Maui approved agricultural subdivision. However neither the State of Hawaii or the County of Maui has never enforced the delivery of agricultural water to these properties.

The County of Maui also requires that we must develop, submit for approval, pay a fee, have the plan recorded on our land deeds, and implement a farm plan before even being considered for a building permit on these properties. Despite that the County still refuses to accept any responsibility as does the State of Hawaii for this situation.

Mpl, aka Molokai Ranch, has been and continues to be unresponsive to the request of both the County of Maui and your demands for information substantiating their claims of shortfalls in revenues for the utility companies.

This proposal for temporary rate increases based upon inadequate, unaudited, unsubstantiated claims sets a precedent that will have significant and far reaching ramifications. Additionally the term temporary clearly means that in six months the rate will again be increased as revenues fall short due to the continued reduction in water usage.

It should be noted that the vast majority of residents on the west end are not rich but are on either fixed incomes or are still working families. This rate increase in addition to the other sky high prices that we are currently facing will have huge ramifications.

MPL. knew from the onset that the purchase of the utilities had considerable liabilities involved and they accepted them, to reward them now with rate increases while they continue to be uncooperative is a serious breach of the trust and responsibilities this board has. It is clear that MPL has only contempt for this Board, the State of Hawaii, the County of Maui and the very residents that they agreed to service.

I request that this rate increase be put on hold until all the information requested by both this Board and the County of Maui are furnished in their entirety and that a complete picture of this situation can be seen by all.

Ray Tensfeldt



"Adolphus Lankford "  
<alank757@msn.com>  
07/28/2008 07:19 PM

To <hawaii.puc@hawaii.gov>  
cc  
bcc  
Subject Increasing water rates on Molokai

To PUC, I am Adolphus Lankford a resident of Maunaloa on Molokai. I was not able to be at the meeting you had at Maunaloa Elementary School, I wanted to be there to give this testimony, and I just got your e-mail address so here is my testimony. My wife and I have been residents of Maunaloa for eight years now. We have been paying a water bill to Molokai Properties for that eight years. Every month with our water bill we received a letter stating that we had an excellent system and had nothing to worry about. They never said anything about the system being a substandard system, not even after the ranch shut down. The first time we heard was when they said they were going to stop water and sewer services at the end of August, and it wasn't even Molokai Properties that said anything it was the county that said it was a substandard system. I don't know who allowed them to have a substandard system, but they knowingly deceived the community they served, eight years at least and probably a few years more than that.

I would not have cared if they had been honest from the start with us and told us it was a substandard system and told us they were going to adjust our rates a **REASONABLE** amount and bring it to a standard system. They were not honest then and they are not honest now. This is their mess let them clean it up. They are deceiving you when they say they don't have money to fix the system. Make them sell off some of their holdings to fix it. To make the community liable for their mistake is unconscionable on your part to even think of it and say it. They are the criminals in this situation not the community. They have been selling lots here in Maunaloa and central Molokai and encouraging people to move here knowing they were going to do this. Don't you think that is being dishonest? I will not pay any increase in my water bill to fix the system. You better be ready to take me to court. Thank you for taking my testimony.

Adolphus G. Lankford  
C-7 Maunaloa Rd  
Maunaloa, HI 96770





"Alexis Mitman Colker "  
<vlzsla3@pacbell.net>

07/24/2008 03:53 PM

To <Hawaii.puc@hawaii.gov>

cc

bcc

Subject MPL

As an impacted person served by MPL utilities, I am shocked that a utility can threaten to unilaterally stop service. What are the PUC remedies in response to such action? What prevents MPL from repeating this threat? The PUC should immediately move to cause a take over of the system at no cost if service is stopped and then see to it that fair rates are charged under applicable rules allowing for a fair return.

I am also shocked to see any rate increase based on unaudited financial records. This is misconduct that should not be permitted. **At a minimum the PUC should order that revenue generated by the rate increase be placed in an escrow account under PUC control until complete financial information is provided and a rate increase consistent with law is implemented.**

Thank you for considering my comments.